

**SUMMARIES OF AND RELEVANT BACKGROUND FOR
RECOMMENDATIONS CREATED BY THE
GOVERNOR’S P-20 EDUCATION COORDINATING COUNCIL,
APRIL – DECEMBER 2008**

EDUCATOR LICENSURE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. Revision of the state’s performance based teaching standards**
 - a. Subcommittee of Reference: Educator (and Preparation and Transitions)
 - b. Summary of Recommendation: To modify the state’s teacher performance based standards, as defined in SBE rule (per 22-60.5-203), to reflect the needs and issues facing teachers in this state, such as the socioeconomic and cultural diversity of pupils, the needs of English language learners and special needs students, the ability to differentiate instruction, and workforce and postsecondary readiness.

- 2. Consolidation of alternative teacher preparation and program accountability**
 - a. Subcommittee of Reference: Educator
 - b. Summary of Recommendation: To consolidate alternative teacher preparation routes (defined by SBE per 22-60.5-205 for alternative licensure programs and 22-32-110.3 for “Teachers In Residence”) into a single alternative route to reduce confusion for potential teachers about how to enter an alternative route, increase flexibility in creating alternative routes, and ensuring that such programs are reviewed periodically by the state for evidence that teacher candidates are competent in the Colorado Performance Based Standards for Teachers.

- 3. Alignment of content requirements for all licensure programs (traditional, alternative, TIR)**
 - a. Subcommittee of Reference: Educator and Systems Transformation
 - b. Summary of Recommendation: To both ensure that new teacher content knowledge requirements among all types of licensure programs—traditional, teacher in residence, and alternative—are consistent in rigor and application and to ensure that the process for verifying licensure candidates’ content knowledge is uniformly rigorous while maintaining maximum administrative flexibility to candidates.

- 4. Permission to offer college majors in “Elementary Education” and “Early Childhood Education”**
 - a. Subcommittee of Reference: Educator
 - b. Summary of Recommendation: To allow institutions of higher education to offer and award majors in elementary education and early childhood education.

5. **Modification to state teacher preparation program licensure rules to expressly accommodate national teacher accreditation (National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education [NCATE] and Teacher Education Accreditation Council [TEAC])**
 - a. Subcommittee of Reference: Educator
 - b. Summary of Recommendation: To synchronize state and national teacher education accreditation/authorization visits.
6. **Support for the forthcoming Teacher and Principal Unique Identification pilot program legislation**
 - a. Subcommittee of Reference: Educator & Systems Transformation
 - b. Summary of Recommendation: To support the development of a unique teacher identifier pilot program.
7. **Creation of a state-level teacher institute**
 - a. Subcommittee of Reference: Educator
 - b. Summary of Recommendation: To create a short-term (three-year), state-level teacher quality institute. The institute would address teacher quality issues facing the state including teacher shortages, teacher content knowledge, quality of induction programs, coordination of teacher recruitment strategies, feedback between school districts and teacher preparation institutions, and strategies for supporting teacher quality.
8. **Additional funding for the professional services (educator licensure) division in the Colorado Department of Education**
 - a. Subcommittee of Reference: Educator
 - b. Summary of Recommendation: To provide additional resources to the educator licensing division in the department of education in order to expedite the processing of license applications, increase the use of automated licensure processes, and improve data collection and analytical capacities.

DATA COLLECTION, DATA USE, AND DATA SYSTEMS RECOMMENDATIONS

9. **Prioritize the Colorado Growth Model and Provide Greater Access to Data and Analytical Capacity to School Districts**
 - a. Subcommittee of Reference: Data and Accountability
 - b. Summary of Recommendation: To provide additional resources for improving the operability of the data systems supporting the Colorado Growth Model and increasing access to and training on the model for practitioners in the field. Such services would be targeted to school administrators, classroom teachers, students and parents. And, to provide additional resources, such as extra site licenses (system-level access), and data mining/analytical training and support to users of the CEDAR system. Before expanding the CEDAR system, the Colorado Department of Education should engage with local districts to leverage their expertise and experience in providing data analysis capabilities and to ensure that CEDAR,

or any subsequent state system, will be compatible with and support the locally-developed systems in place in many districts.

10. Develop a new, next generation state education data system in the Colorado Department of Education

- a. Subcommittee of Reference: Data and Accountability
- b. Summary of Recommendation: Using the North Highland Report as a guide, to replace the department's existing education data system with one that would accommodate the needs of an education system envisioned in CAP4K, ensuring that such a system could interface with data systems in other state departments, such as the SURDS system in the Department of Higher Education, enable the longitudinal tracking of all students from preschool through postsecondary education, and permit effortless exchanges of data between and among school districts.

11. Creation of a data coordinating council in CDE

- a. Subcommittee of Reference: Data and Accountability
- b. Summary of Recommendation: To create an internal council as recommended in the North Highland Report to assist the department with the full implementation of the North Highland Report and look for ways to improve the effectiveness of data collection.

12. Authorize the Data Protocol Development Council created in HB 1364, or a successor committee, to continue work on the development of an integrated P-20 education data system and create a state "P-20" education data coordinating council to advise this work

- a. Subcommittee of Reference: Data and Accountability
- b. Summary of Recommendation: To create a stakeholder-based data coordinating council to advise the ongoing work of the Data Protocol Development Council and provide recommendations to the Governor's Office of Information Technology on current and future data collection, system integration, and dissemination practices.

**POSTSECONDARY PREPARATION AND PARTICIPATION
RECOMMENDATIONS**

13. Concurrent enrollment ("Preferred Program")

- a. Subcommittee of Reference: Preparation and Transitions
- b. Summary of Recommendation: To create a "preferred program" for concurrent enrollment, a state-coordinated program that would be universally accessible, standards-based, and financially and academically accountable. Such a program would authorize career and technical education (CTE) programs as well as basic skills courses for certain students. Further, this recommendation would create a state-level advisory committee to coordinate its implementation.

14. Individual career and academic plans (ICAPs)

- a. Subcommittee of Reference: Preparation and Transitions
- b. Summary of Recommendation: To have the State Board of Education adopt standards for Individual Career and Academic Plans, which districts would have to meet or exceed as soon as is practicable. Such standards would be incorporated into the State Board of Education's accreditation policies.

15. Creating and cultivating postsecondary aspirations in public schools

- a. Subcommittee of Reference: Preparation and Transitions
- b. Summary of Recommendation: To provide state-level staff support, professional development and technical assistance to administrators and teachers, recognition programs for schools, and adopt accreditation standards for "postsecondary access/success plans."

16. Postsecondary attainment accountability and reporting

- a. Subcommittee of Reference: Preparation and Transitions
- b. Summary of Recommendation: For the departments of education and higher education to share student enrollment data, create reports on student participation and achievement, and, for higher education in particular, track students' progress into public and private colleges and universities (e.g., subscribing to the National Student Clearinghouse, a national system that verifies enrollment and degree attainment). Moreover, for the Department of Higher Education to modify future performance contracts to include institutions' contributions to supporting postsecondary preparation in K-12 schools.

17. Incentive funding for postsecondary readiness

- a. Subcommittee of Reference: Systems Transformation
- b. Summary of Recommendation: To provide incentive funding (e.g. \$500 per case) to K-12 schools that successfully graduate postsecondary and workforce ready students who are otherwise at risk for not completing high school.

**EDUCATION REFORM, PERFORMANCE, AND ACCOUNTABILITY
RECOMMENDATIONS**

18. Creation of a division of education reform accountability

- a. Subcommittee of Reference: Systems Transformation
- b. Summary of Recommendation: To provide at least one FTE in an appropriate state department for the purpose of monitoring and reporting on the progress and effectiveness of education reform efforts.

19. Modifications to the Innovations Schools Act

- a. Subcommittee of Reference: Systems Transformation

- b. Summary of Recommendation: To amend the Innovation Schools Act to broaden its scope and provide incentives for its use among schools and districts.

20. Encouraging the Colorado Department of Education and the Colorado Department of Higher Education to incorporate recommendations developed by the Graduation Guidelines Development Council (GGDC)

- a. Subcommittee of Reference: Systems Transformation
- b. Summary of Recommendation: To encourage the Colorado Department of Education and the Colorado Department of Higher Education to use the report created by the Graduation Guidelines Development Council (GGDC) to help guide the creation of new content standards, assessments, and definitions of postsecondary and workforce readiness.

21. K-12 Incentive Funding to Reduce High School Dropout Rates

- a. Subcommittee of Reference: Systems Transformation
- b. Summary of Recommendation: To provide matching grants school districts participating in the “Statewide Dropout Initiative” in order to implement targeted dropout prevention initiatives and create early warning dropout systems.